

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**

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**RE: Support of Bill 258: An Act Concerning Infant Safe Sleep Practices**

Distinguished Members of the Committee on Public Health,

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner investigates all unexpected and unnatural deaths that occur in Connecticut. These include sudden unexpected infant deaths.

Connecticut medical examiners and our colleagues across the country, have seen an increase in the identification of infants deaths with unsafe sleeping practices. This tragedy is further compounded by the fact that most if not all can be prevented by proper sleep practices. Despite current public education campaigns (e.g., "Back to Sleep"), we still see these deaths. By focusing parental education at the source (that is, at the hospital following all births), we can offer the best opportunity to prevent these fatalities.

For the reasons above, I support Bill 258.

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Gill, MD